

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, claims 1-6, 16, and 19-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Ge et al.* ("Ge") (U.S. Patent No. 5,859,508) in view of *Saito et al.* ("Saito") (U.S. Patent No. 6,474,825 B1).

Claims 7-15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Ge* and *Saito* as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of *Lowe* (U.S. Patent No. 5,561,343) and *Anderson et al.* ("Anderson") (U.S. Patent No. 5,811,927).

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during a telephonic interview on October 14, 2003. Applicant amends claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1-23 are pending for further consideration

All Claims are Allowable

The Examiner is thanked for the helpful suggestions for amending claim 1 so as to overcome any alleged indefiniteness and informalities. These suggestions have been incorporated into claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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MJB/DEC/fdb